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SAYS SINKIANG URANIUM ORE
FEEDS SOVIET ATOMIC ENERGY PLANTS

SINKIANG MAY BECOME INDUSTRIAL FORTRESS -- Hong Kong Kung-shang Jih-pao, 21 Jun 50

London, 19 June (CNA -- The following is based on a report made by a Kashmir reporter.

A former high Sinkiang official, who recently escaped from Sinkiang, stated that this province is furnishing the USSR with uranium, oil, coal, iron, and other valuable minerals. He asserted that a considerable quantity of uranium is being mined and continuously shipped to atomic-energy plants within Soviet territory.

It has been further reported that there are testing fields for atom bombs, fei-tan [guided missiles or rocket bombs], and other secret weapons in the desert regions of Sinkiang.

These and other such activities prove that the USSR is planning to make Sinkiang the withdrawal area for her heavy industries when and if there is conflict with the Western nations.

At present, the Chinese Communists have closed the Sinkiang border and the road to Kashmir is reportedly blockaded.

MUCH URANIUM ORE ALREADY MINED -- Hong Kong Hsing-tao Jih-pao, 20 Jun 50

London, 19 June (French News Agency) -- According to information from refugees in Kashmir, broadcasts from Urumchi and Chuguchak, and reports originating from the USSR, the Soviet Union has mined a large quantity of uranium ore from northern and northwestern Sinkiang and has shipped it to the USSR to keep her atomic-energy plants supplied.

Also, it has been reported that the Russians are collecting such materials as oil, coal, iron, white and yellow gold, copper, and other mineral ores in Sinkiang for export to the Soviet Union. It is further revealed that preparations are being made to use the desert region as a testing ground for atomic

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and rocket weapons and that the Russians are making plans to move their heavy industries into Sinkiang in case the war in Western Europe flares up.

Airfields have been constructed in ten locations within Sinkiang for the convenience of the USSR, and other fields are being built. Railroads throughout the entire province are being repaired, and the Shanghai-Moscow railroad is now under construction.

CALLS SINKIANG A SOVIET PROVINCE -- Stockholm Dagens Nyheter, 19 Jun 50

Srinagar, Kashmir, 18 June (special correspondent) -- The Chinese province of Sinkiang has practically been annexed by the USSR. Step by step the Russians have built up this strategically important area, bordering India and Pakistan, into one of the USSR's most important strong points in the Far East.

Large quantities of uranium, coal, oil, and iron are now being fed to Soviet industry from Sinkiang, and reports in Kashmir indicate that the Russians are conducting extensive experiments with rockets and atomic weapons there. There are many indications that the USSR, in a critical situation, would be able to move much of its heavy industry to Sinkiang.

It is also indicated that the USSR is about to establish in the province military bases pointing at India and Pakistan. In Kashmir, which borders Sinkiang, it has been possible to piece together bits of information from various sources -- from refugees, radio reports from Urumchi, and occasionally from notices in the Soviet press. Refugees from Sinkiang, particularly, have given detailed information on the degree of Soviet infiltration. Several members of the former provincial government of Sinkiang, including Governor Mohamed Imin Bughra and his right-hand man, Isa Yusuf, succeeded under frightful hardships in crossing the Karakoram mountain chain, reaching Kashmir and safety. During their flight, they crossed almost inaccessible mountain passes, some 6,000 meters high, and several members of the fugitive band, including Yusuf's daughter, perished from the cold.

Sinkiang was conquered by the Chinese Communists in September 1949, but even during the time the province was officially under Chiang Kai-shek's suzerainty it was under strong Soviet influence. In addition to strong forces sent by the Chinese Communists, an unknown number of Soviet groups and air units have arrived in the province. Part of the former Nationalist army in Sinkiang is still conducting guerrilla warfare against the Communists, but these forces now total only about 20,000 men and offer only sporadic resistance.

At least ten airfields are now under Soviet control, and a large number of Soviet flyers and technicians have come to Sinkiang. The Russians have also expanded the railroad network and are now laying a line directly from the USSR to Sinkiang and further to the eastern parts of China.

After his arrival in Kashmir, former Governor Bughra published a survey of the Sinkiang natural resources primarily exploited by the Russians. Tungsten, gold, silver, and copper, in addition to oil, coal, and iron, are being exploited on a large scale. The major portion of the production is going to the USSR. The uranium mines are located in the northern parts of the province, and, according to Bughra, "significant quantities of uranium" are being shipped to the Soviet atomic piles.

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